Reservation in Fictitious Names

632. SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM' : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the Travel Agencies get railway berths booked in the fictitious names in connivance with the booking clerks;

(b) if so, what is the magnitude of the menace, and

(c) the remedial steps being taken in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) Though it is not possible to quantify the extent and magnitude of the problem, cases of booking reserved accomodation in fictitious names by touts and other such unscrupulous elements are being reported and are detected during the course of checks conducted by Railways

(c) Railways conduct frequent checks in Reservation/Booking Offices at stations and in trains Raids are also organised in the premises of unauthorised agents from time to time. Action is taken against such agents/touts found indulging in malpractices as also against the persons who are caught travelling on transferred ticket They are booked under provisions of existing laws including Railways Act Disciplinary action is taken against Railway staff who are found to be conniving in such activities

[Translation]

Development Projects of Madhya Pradesh

633 SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state

(a) the details of proposals from Madhya Pradesh Lying pending with the Union Government for the environmental and forestry clearance till 31st December 1995, and

(b) the details of proposals disposed of by the Government so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) (a) As on 31 12.95, 12 proposals (6 mining and 6 Thermal power) were pending for environmental clearance and 27 proposals pertaining to irrigation mining regularisation of encroachments etc. were pending for forestry clearance with the Central Government

(b) As on 30 6 96, 146 projects have been received for environmental clearance Out of this 74 projects have been accorded environmental clearance and 72 projects have been rejected due to non submission of requisite environmental data. Similarly 948 proposals have been received for forestry clearance under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Out of this 461 have been accorded forestry clearance and 146 have been rejected on merit.

[English]

Electrification of Guntur Railway Line

634 SHRI T GOPAL KRISHNA Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to electrify Bibi Nagar-Nadi-Kude on Guntur Railway line to improve the running time between Hyderabad and Madras and Hyderabad and Calcutta

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

(c) Electrification of any section is decided on the basis of the level of traffic obtaining and such a work being capital intensive it may be taken up if there is adequate return on the investment and for operational requirements High density routes are therefore given priority The traffic density in Bibi Nagar-Nadikude section in Guntur railway line is low at present and therefore cannot be justified on the basis of return on capital to be invested

Circular Railway in Calcutta

635 SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether Circular Rail facility has been provided to commuters of Calcutta,

(b) if so the destinations and names of stoppages of this Circular train,

(c) whether there is any proposal to extend the Circular Rail upto Majerghat Railway Station (Via-Esplanade Fort William) in the near future,

(d) if so, the details thereof,

(e) whether the clearance from Defence is also required to be obtained for the proposed extension,

(f) if so, whether the same has been obtained and

(g) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) The entire 13.5 km . non-electrified single line project from Dum Dum Jn to Princepghat has been commissioned in stages for traffic by 17 6 90 The name of the